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Ruby on Rails - the Most Preferred for Web Applications by [OpenSourceArticles](http://OpenSourceArticles.com)

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Rails is written in Ruby, a programming language. What Ruby is to Rails is similar to PHP is to Symfony and Zend, or Python is to Django. The reasons for the developers prefer Ruby is because of the elegance and directness of the language.

The principle of Ruby on Rails development is 'Convention over Configuration' (CoC). This means that the programmer only has to write new code for the areas in which their application deviates from the standard. Another characteristic of Rails is REST (Representational State Transfer), a software architecture based around the client-server relationship. It encourages a logical structure within applications, which means they can easily be opened up as an API (Application Programming Interface).

Agile web development is implemented within the Rails community. This is a particular method of structuring the development process as per the communication between the developers and the client. In a short period, Ruby on Rails has earned a huge following. This is largely due to the rapid development of dynamic web applications. The following are the reasons why Ruby on Rails is preferred by the programmers/ developers.

â€¢ Here the process of programming is much faster compared to that of the other frameworks and languages due to the object-oriented nature of Ruby and also because of CoC as it reduces the amount of code that needs to be written.

â€¢ CoC makes it easy for Ruby on Rails developers to move between different Rails projects, as each project will tend to follow the same structure and coding practices.

â€¢ Ruby code is readable and hence is self-documenting. This increases productivity, as the need to write separate documentation is minimal and is easy for other Ruby on Rails programmers to pick up projects.

â€¢ Rails enables him to build Basecamp with Ruby, and consequently to build large applications.

â€¢ The CoC and DRY (Don't Repeat Yourself) maxims and Agile methodologies all aim to make the web application development process easy for a Ruby on Rails programmer.

â€¢ Quick turn-around time is provides an integrated web server and an interpreted language helps in code modifications immediately, thereby minimizing the code-debug cycle.

â€¢ Most e-commerce sites benefit tremendously from Rails' user-friendly features and modular approach to site development. Features that are high-end e-commerce suites, such as bulk uploads and updates, custom pricing algorithms, and photo resizing/cropping can be included in Ruby on Rails web application development.

â€¢ Membership and social networking are generally developed on Ruby on Rails because of the variety of plugins that are available helps to solve the social networking challenges that might arise.

â€¢ If the purpose of the site is to present thousands of articles, audio files or other database-friendly content, Ruby on Rails is a great solution because of the ease with which users will be able to navigate the site, and with which one will be able to upload and manage the content.

â€¢ New projects that require custom solutions for novel database structure to support a creative new business model Ruby on Rails is an ideal way to build these solutions at minimal time and expense.

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